

APPLICANTS: OVADIA, Bat-Sheva et al.
SERIAL NO.: 09/406,788
FILED: September 28, 1999
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REMARKS

The present response is intended to be fully responsive to all points of objection and/or rejection raised by the Examiner and is believed to place the application in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Applicant asserts that the present invention is new, non-obvious and useful. Prompt consideration and allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-3, 6-8, 10, 12, 19-23, 27, 28, 30, 32 and 39-54 are pending in the application. Claims 1-3, 6-8, 10, 12, 19-22, 27, 28, 30, 32, 39-42, 44 and 54 have been rejected. Claims 23, 43, and 45 - 50 have been objected to. Claims 51 - 53 are allowed.

Claims 20 - 23, 40 - 43 and 45 have been amended. Applicant respectfully asserts that no new matter has been added.

Claims 1 - 3, 6 - 8, 10, 12, 19, 27, 28, 30, 32, 39, 44 and 54 have been canceled without prejudice. In making this cancellation without prejudice, Applicants reserve all rights in these claims to file divisional and/or continuation patent applications.

Allowable Subject Matter

In the Office Action, the Examiner stated that claims 51 - 53 are allowed. The Examiner further stated that claims 23, 43 and 45-50 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitation of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 23, 43 and 45 have been rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants respectfully assert that this amendment does not narrow the scope of claims 23, 43 and 45.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 USC §102

Claims 1 - 3, 6, 8, 10, 12, 19, 27, 28, 30, 32 and 39 were rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by Mujtaba (US 2002/0010895).

Claims 44 and 54 were rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by Meyer (US 5,802,115).

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Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 1 - 3, 6, 8, 10, 12, 19, 27, 28, 30, 32, 39, 44 and 54 under 35 USC §102(e), *inter alia*, because a *prima facie* case of anticipation has not been established.

Nevertheless, in order to further the allowance of the subject application, applicants have cancelled without prejudice, claims 1 - 3, 6, 8, 10, 12, 19, 27, 28, 30, 32, 39, 44 and 54. In making this cancellation without prejudice, Applicants reserve all rights in these claims to file divisional and/or continuation patent applications.

As claims 1 - 3, 6, 8, 10, 12, 19, 27, 28, 30, 32, 39, 44 and 54 have been cancelled without prejudice, these rejections are now moot.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 USC §103

Claims 20 - 22 and 40 - 42 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Mujtaba (US 2002/0010895) in view of Meyer (US 5,802,115).

In the office Action, the Examiner stated that claims 23 and 43 contain allowable subject matter. Claims 20 - 22 and 40 - 42 have been amended to be dependent from claims 23 and 43 respectively. Accordingly, applicant believe that claims 20 - 22 and 40 - 42 are now allowable and request that the rejection of claims 20 - 22 and 40 - 42 be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

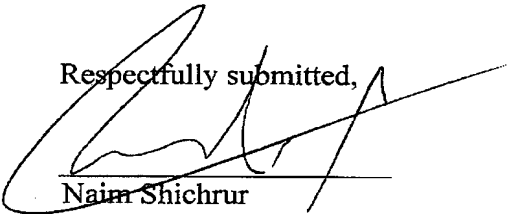
The present communication is intended to be fully responsive to all points of rejection raised by the Examiner and is believed to place the application in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application is respectfully requested. It is submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance. Prompt notice of allowance is respectfully requested.

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Should the Examiner have any question or comment as to the form, content or entry of this Amendment, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below. Similarly, if there are any further issues yet to be resolved to advance the prosecution of this application to issue, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned counsel.

Please charge any fees associated with this paper to deposit account No. 05-0649.

Respectfully submitted,



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